

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 – 89 remain in the application. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 1-25 and 38-89 are directed to allowable subject matter. The applicant thanks the Examiner for this acknowledgement.

Claims 1, 14, 26, 38, 66 and 78 were amended to remove the “recumbent sitting position” limitation.

Claim 5 was also amended to add the limitation that the pressure pod comprises a composite structure made from a resin and fibers and to remove the limitation that the submersible does not contain a ballast tank. This amendment was made to remove the ballast tank limitation that is already in claim 1.

The Examiner rejected claims 26-37 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph as being indefinite because these claims include the limitation of at least one buoyancy tank for providing a variable buoyancy and also indicates that the submersible does not include a ballast tank and has a fixed positive buoyancy. The claim 26 has been amended to remove the buoyancy tank limitation and claims 27-37 depend from claim 26. The applicant respectfully submits that Claims 26-37 are patentable over the cited prior art and request that they be allowed.

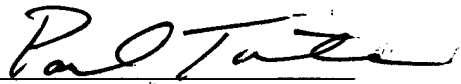
Claim 52 was amended to remove the limitation that the pressure pod is “made of sand cast aluminum.”

Claim 56 was amended to remove the words “on the” to correct a typographical error in the claim as originally filed.

The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned collect at (415) 705-6377 if there are any outstanding issues or questions which can be resolved to allow this application to be passed to issue. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dergosits & Noah, LLP

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